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JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Tuesday - 27 February 1973

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1. [] Maury and Cary met with Ed Braswell, Chief Counsel, Senate Armed Services Committee. Maury briefed him on the facts concerning the possible leak of information in Joe Alsop's article entitled "Russia's 'Go' or 'No Go' Decision" and said he was on his way to see Senator Nunn. We hope to be able to respond to Nunn's letter to the Director with an oral briefing instead of a written response.

Braswell said Senator Harry Byrd (I., Va.) was concerned and perhaps confused about the second Soviet aircraft carrier being built at Nikolayev as the result of an article by William Beecher in this morning's New York Times. Braswell said Byrd is thinking about making some statements on the floor about this but wants to get the facts first. Braswell asked for a rundown on this second ship and any commentary we might have on the Beecher column.

Braswell was briefed on the letter we had received from Senator James Abourezk (D., S. Dak.) on Air America and other air operations in Southeast Asia. We told him we had tried to handle this with Abourezk orally but he has asked for a letter and our inclination is to send him a letter 25X1 which contains no sensitive substantive information.

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Woodruff said he thought he and Guy McConnell could arrange things to meet with [] and asked me to come up with some suggested dates.

Woodruff also said he thought he and McConnell could adjust their schedules to fit Ralph Preston's, House Appropriations Committee staff, convenience in coming out to the Agency for a prebriefing session on the budget.

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